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K-7007  
BLUE SPRINGS

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RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY  
NORTH VIETNAM

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS NEWLY-IDENTIFIED RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY.

2. REMARKS:

SINCE EARLY 1965 THE HANOI - LAO CAI RAIL LINE HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO AIR STRIKES WHICH HAVE CLOSED THIS LINE TO THROUGH TRAFFIC. SEVERAL ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO REOPEN THE LINE, HOWEVER EACH TIME AIR STRIKES HAVE AGAIN CLOSED IT.

THE HANOI-DONG DANG RAIL LINE WAS INTERDICTED IN EARLY 1965, HOWEVER BY OCTOBER THE RAIL LINE WAS REPAIRED AND OPEN TO THROUGH TRAFFIC. THE LINE HAD REMAINED OPEN FROM OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, EXCEPT FOR A BRIEF PERIOD AFTER AIR STRIKES OF 16 NOVEMBER 1965.

3. COLLATERAL:

COLLATERAL REPORTS THE HANOI - LAO CAI RAIL LINE TO BE OPEN FOR ITS FULL LENGTH, AND THE HANOI - DONG DANG RAIL LINE IS POSSIBLY OPEN NORTHEAST OF THE CHINESE BORDER.

THE CAO NUNG RAILROAD BRIDGE ON THE HANOI - DONG DANG RAIL LINE WAS ALMOST COMPLETELY DESTROYED ON 01 DECEMBER 1965 AND SEVERAL OTHER BRIDGES WERE DAMAGED ON 20 DECEMBER 1965. PHOTOGRAPHY OF [REDACTED] COVERING THE ONLY PREVIOUSLY-CONFIRMED INTERDICTION ON THIS RAIL LINE, THE CAO NUNG RAILROAD BRIDGE, REVEALS THIS BRIDGE TO BE IN OPERATION.

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NO STRIKES HAVE BEEN FLOWN AGAINST THE HANOI - THAI NGUYEN  
RAIL LINE AND IT IS OPERATIONAL FOR ITS FULL LENGTH.

4. MISSION READOUT:

PHOTOGRAPHY OF BLUE SPRINGS [REDACTED] REVEALS

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A NEW RAIL LINE UNDER CONSTRUCTION EXTENDING FROM THE VICINITY OF  
THE THAI NGUYEN IRON ORE PROCESSING PLANT, [REDACTED] (NOT SHOWN  
ON GRAPHIC) FOR 16.5 NM SOUTHEAST TO THE WEST BANK OF THE SONG  
THUONG (RIVER) AT 2127N 10614E. HEAVY CLOUDS IN THE AREA OF THE  
ORE PROCESSING PLANT PRECLUDE THE DETERMINATION OF THE EXACT LOCATION  
OF THE BEGINNING OF CONSTRUCTION. CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY CONSISTS OF  
CLEARING AND GRADING ALONG THE RIGHT-OF-WAY AND, IN PLACES, ACTUAL  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE ROADBED.

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THIS MISSION ALSO REVEALS NEW RAIL LINE ALIGNMENT, FACILITIES,  
BRIDGE REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION, AND STORAGE FACILITIES ON THE HANOI -  
DONG DANG RAIL LINE.

A NEW TURNING WYE IS LOCATED JUST NORTHEAST OF KEP AND A NEW  
RAIL YARD WITH AT LEAST FIVE TRACKS AND TEN PIECES OF ROLLING STOCK  
IS LOCATED 0.7 NM NORTHEAST OF KEP AT 2124N 10617E.

SEVERAL NEW STORAGE AREAS ARE LOCATED ALONG THE LINE. ONE,  
APPROXIMATELY 3.5 NM NORTHEAST OF KEP, CONTAINS AT LEAST THIRTY  
BUILDINGS DISPERSED IN RAVINES. OTHER STORAGE AREAS ARE LOCATED  
AS FOLLOWS:

- A. FIFTEEN BUILDINGS DISPERSED ALONG A KARST BLUFF AT 2139N  
10635E.

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B. FIFTEEN BUILDINGS DISPERSED ALONG A KARST BLUFF AT 2137N  
10634E.

C. FIVE BUILDINGS DISPERSED IN A RAVINE AT 2135N 10631E.

D. TWENTY-SIX BUILDINGS DISPERSED IN RAVINES AT 2126N 10618E.

THE CAO NUNG RAILROAD BRIDGE OVER THE SONG HOA

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LOCATED AT 2133N 10629E APPEARS SERVICEABLE.

SEVERAL AREAS OF RAIL LINE REALIGNMENT ARE OBSERVED NORTH OF  
LANG GIAI RAILROAD YARD (2124N 10616E) AND CONSIST OF THE INCREASING  
OF THE RADIUS OF CURVES AND THE IMPROVING OF GRADES. THE RAIL LINE  
IN EACH CASE REMAINS FULLY OPERATIONAL.

A NEW RAILROAD RIVER CROSSING IS OBSERVED IN CLOUD SHADOW 0.7  
NM SOUTH-SOUTHEAST OF LANG SON OVER THE SONG KY KANG (RIVER). CLOUD  
COVER PRECLUDES DETERMINATION OF THE TYPE OF CROSSING.

THE RAIL LINE WAS OBSERVED INTERMITTENTLY FROM PING HSIANG,  
CHINA TO A POINT JUST SOUTHWEST OF KEP, NORTH VIETNAM. THE RAIL  
LINE APPEARS SERVICEABLE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE SECTION OBSERVED.

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